

February 19, 1999

TO: Members of the MAG Telecommunications Advisory Group

FROM: Debbie Kohn, Avondale, Chairperson

SUBJECT: MEETING NOTIFICATION AND TRANSMITTAL OF TENTATIVE AGENDA

Thursday, February 25, 1999, 10:00 a.m.  
MAG Office, Suite 200, Ocotillo Room  
302 North 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue, Phoenix

A meeting of the MAG Telecommunications Advisory Group (TAG) will be held at the time and place noted above. Supporting information is enclosed.

Please be advised that under procedures approved by the MAG Regional Council on June 26, 1996, all MAG committees need to have a quorum in order to conduct business. A quorum is a simple majority of the membership, or 9 people for the MAGTAG. If you are unable to attend the meeting, please make arrangements for a proxy from your jurisdiction to represent you.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Harry Wolfe or Heidi Pahl at 254-6300.

TENTATIVE AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of January 28, 1999 and February 17, 1999 Meeting Minutes
3. Announcements

An opportunity will be provided to members of the public and Committee members to address the MAG Technical Advisory Group for items that are not included on the agenda.

ADVISORY GROUP ACTION REQUESTED

2. Review and approve January 28, 1999 and February 17, 1999 meeting minutes.
3. For information.

4. Funding for Potential Telecommunications Projects

On February 17, 1999, the MAG Telecommunications Advisory Group held a Telephonic Committee Meeting to review the three year staff option for Telecommunications Projects. These projects are being forwarded to the Transportation Review Committee for consideration for inclusion in the five year transportation improvement program. At the meeting support was expressed for the projects along with the priorities for those projects. A status report will be provided.

5. MAG Videoconferencing Project

The MAG Videoconferencing Project will implement videoconferencing technology to facilitate communication among MAG and its member agencies and reduce travel by eliminating the need to travel to as many meetings. The consultant for the project, Norstan, is currently working on the requirements phase of a study to design a videoconferencing system for the region. As a part of the requirements phase of this study, Norstan is making site visits to each member agency to identify potential videoconferencing applications and inventory facilities that might be suitable to use for videoconferencing. A representative of Norstan will review the results of the site visits. A schedule for the completion of the project will also be presented.

6. Vendor Demonstration of Videoconferencing Equipment

The results of the requirements phase of the MAG Videoconferencing Project will be used to define the equipment that will meet the videoconferencing needs of MAG member agencies. Once this equipment is defined, a group of vendors that have the equipment that can meet our needs will be invited to demonstrate that equipment. The vendor demonstration is set for Monday, May 2, 1999. MAG is currently working with Norstan on arrangements for the

4. For information and discussion.

5. For information and discussion.

6. For information and discussion.

vendor demonstration. A status report will be provided.

7. Telecommuting Program

The telecommuting portion of the MAG Teleconferencing and Telecommuting Program, will provide for additional telecommuting alternatives throughout the Valley and encourage telework and proximate commuting. A status report will be provided.

8. Panel Discussion on Telecommunications

On February 4, 1999, the Maricopa Association of Governments hosted the Valley Vision 2025 Public Utility/Governance Subcommittee meeting. At this meeting a panel discussion entitled Arizona Telecommunications Alternatives, Choices and Solutions was held. A status report will be provided. Please see Attachment One.

9. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the MAGTAG will be held on March 25, 1999.

7. For information and discussion.

8. For information and discussion.

9. For information and discussion.